

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
United States Senate
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Christopher Coons
United States Senate
127A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dean Heller
United States Senate
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Hatch, Coons and Heller:

We support your ongoing work to modernize our outdated electronic privacy laws through your introduction of the International Communications Privacy Act (ICPA). Technology has moved ahead by leaps and bounds. Yet the law has mostly stood still. Now is the time to act.

We agree that law enforcement needs to be able to do its job, but it needs to do it in a way that respects fundamental rights, including the personal privacy of people around the world and the sovereignty of other nations.

Today, U.S. companies face the challenge of conflicting laws. The uncertainty of our existing legal framework is causing other countries to be concerned about the privacy rights of their citizens. It is causing foreign governments, businesses and individuals to question whether they can trust American products and technologies. And these concerns are leading other nations to enact new laws that seek to block the very steps that our government typically takes through unilateral search warrants.

The 2nd Circuit has ruled that U.S. warrants do not extend outside of the U.S. and made it clear that it is Congress, not the courts, which should modernize the legal framework for international data requests. The decision means it is important for Congress and the executive branch to come together to update the law and ensure there is a rule of law that governs how law enforcement may lawfully access data.

Thanks you for your leadership. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to advance the goals of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Apple
AT&T
Facebook
Google

Microsoft
Oath
Rackspace
Verizon